REC'D 18 FEB 2005

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Sertifikaat

REPUBLIEK VAN SUID AFRIKA

PATENT KANTOOR DEPARTEMENT VAN HANDEL EN NYWERHEID

13/04/052579 Certificate

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENT OFFICE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND **INDUSTRY**

Hiermee word gesertifiseer dat This is to certify that

the documents annexed hereto are true copies of:

Application forms P.1, and P.2, provisional specification and drawings of South African Patent Application No.2003/9786 as originally filed in the Republic of South Africa on 18 December 2003 in the name of LEONID SHPIGEL for an invention entitled: "SEALING ARRANGEMENT."

Geteken te

Signed at

PRETORIA

in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika, hierdie

in the Republic of South Africa, this

dag van

21

January 2005

Registrar of Patents

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 17.1(a) OR (b)

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA PATENTS ACT, 1978

PATENT APPLICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

[Section 30(1) - Regulation 22]

The grant of a patent is hereby requested by the undermentioned applicant on the basis of the present application filed in

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21	01 Officia	al Application No. > 20	03/9786	i	DrG I	Ref.:	628214	
71	Leonid SHF 9 Horak Av Camps Bay	enue 8001 rman LESTER oor Road	FAXED 18 UEL 2003		R	TOA	Range Page 1	
54		ARRANGEMENT					4	
	The applicant claims priority as set out on the accompanying form P2. The earliest priority claimed is:							
	 -	tion is for a patent of addition			21	01		
TH	1. P6 P7 2. 3. P8 4. 5. 6.	Provisional specification Complete specification Drawings Publication particulars and Drawing for abstract An assignment of inventio Certified priority document	Pages: 6 Pages: Sheets: 1 abstract in duplicate.	2 copies				
	7. 8. 9. 10. P3 11. P4 12. P2	Copy of Form P2 and SA Translation of the priority An assignment of priority Declaration and power of Request for ante-dating or Register sheet (in duplicate	document(s) rights attorney on form P3 a form P4	PATENT P O Box 8 30 UN	A GER AND TI CAPE T ION RO	NTH RADE I OWN AD M	A SERVICE: IOLTZ INC MARK ATTORNEY: 8000 SOUTH AFR IILNERTON 7441 27 21 551 2650	
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Fitle of invention 54 SEALING ARRAN	GEMEN'	Т					
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FORM P6

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA PATENTS ACT, 1978

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

[Section 30(1) - Regulation 27]

	01 Official Application No.		DrG Ref.:	628214	
21	01 Official Application No.				
22	Lodging date:	2003 -12- 1 8	L		
71	Full name(s) of applicant(s):				
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TITLE OF INVENTION

Sealing arrangement.

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FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to a sealing arrangement.

More particularly, the present invention relates to a sealing arrangement for sealing a container.

BACKGROUND TO INVENTION

Containers, such as cardboard cartons, are widely used for containing goods for protection and for transportation. The containers are normally sealed with staples and/or packaging tape to prevent the goods from falling out of the containers and to prevent unauthorised access to the goods.

However, in many instances theft from the containers is committed by people transporting the containers. The people break the packaging tape and, after committing the theft, reseal the containers with new packaging tape so that the theft is not immediately obvious after delivery of the container. The thieves are normally well supplied with a variety of different packaging tapes, in some instances even with customised company packaging tapes, and are therefore able to open and reseal many different types of containers without being caught.

It is an object of the invention to suggest a sealing arrangement, which will assist in overcoming these problems.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

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According to the invention a sealing arrangement includes a body; first support means associated with the body and being adapted to support a supply of adhesive tape; second support means associated with the body and being adapted to support a supply of marking tape; a printing unit associated with the body and being adapted to print on the marking tape; and feeding means being adapted to feed the marking tape for adhesion to the adhesive tape prior to attachment to a container, so that in use the marking tape is sealed between the adhesive tape and the container.

10 The adhesive tape may be packaging tape.

The second support means may be a rotatable boss being adapted to rotatably support a reel of marking tape.

The marking tape may be a thin strip of paper.

The marking tape may be non-linear in form, for example it may have a zigzag appearance.

The marking tape may be provided with serrated edges.

The printing unit may be adapted to print encoded matter or bar codes on the marking tape.

The printing unit may be adapted to print on the marking tape only when the marking tape is moving through the printing means.

The printing unit may include a receiver unit being adapted to receive variable information to be printed on the marking tape.

The receiver unit may be operable by radio.

The unit means may be an impact printer, an inkjet printer or a laser printer.

The invention extends to a container sealed by a sealing arrangement as set out herein.

Also according to the invention a method of sealing a container includes the steps of printing matter onto marking tape; of adhering the marking tape to adhesive tape so that the matter is at least partially visible through the adhesive tape; and of sealing a container with the adhesive tape.

The method may include the step of altering the matter at random intervals.

The matter may be customised company information, encoded information or bar codes.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying schematic drawings.

In the drawings there is shown in:

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- 15 Figure 1 A side view of a sealing arrangement in accordance with the invention; and
 - Figure 2 A partial plan view of a container sealed with a strip of tape dispensed from the sealing arrangement shown in Figure 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Referring to Figure 1 of the drawings, a sealing arrangement in accordance with the invention, generally indicated by reference numeral 10, is shown. The sealing arrangement 10, is in the form of a packaging tape dispenser having a

body 12 with a first rotatable boss 14, for rotatably supporting a reel of adhesive tape 16, such as conventional packaging tape.

The dispenser body 12 further has a second rotatable boss 18, for rotatably supporting a reel of marking tape 20. The marking tape 20 has a narrower width than the adhesive tape 16 and is made of printable material, such as a thin strip of paper. Although not shown in the drawings, the marking tape 20 can be non-linear in form, for example it may have a zigzag appearance or serrated edges.

A printing unit 22 is located between the first and second bosses 14,18 and is adapted to print matter onto at least one side of the marking tape 20. The printing unit 22 is activated only when the marking tape 20 is moving through it, thus only when the tape 16,20 is being dispensed from the dispensing body 10. The printing unit 22 can be an impact printer, an inkjet printer or a laser printer.

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The printing unit 22 can optionally include a receiver unit (not shown) which is adapted to receive instructions about what is to be printed on the marking tape 20. The receiver unit can be operated by radio frequency so that the instructions can be centrally distributed to a number of dispensing bodies 12 located at various places, such as in transport vans.

Referring now also to Figure 2, in use, the adhesive tape 16 is dispensed in a normal manner from the dispenser body 12. The marking tape 20 is stuck to the adhesive tape 16 so that as the adhesive tape is dispensed, the marking tape 20 is also pulled of it's reel 18 and moved through the printer unit 22. This causes the printer unit 22 to print matter 24, such as the company name, onto one side of the marking tape 20. After the matter 24 is printed, the marking tape 20 is adhered to the adhesive tape 16. This prevents the

matter 24 from being altered unless the adhesive tape 16 or the marking tape 20 is destroyed.

As the tape 16,20 exits the dispensing body 12, the adhesive tape 16 is used to close and seal a container 26. Any tampering or opening of the container 26 will cause the marking tape 20 to be destroyed. Any unauthorised resealing of the container 26 will then be indicated by the adhesive tape 16 not being provided with marking tape 20 or by the marking tape 20 being printed with the wrong matter 24.

If the adhesive tape is made of a transparent or opaque material, the matter 24 can be easily checked after delivery of the container 26 to ensure no tampering occurred.

Date: 18 December 2003

John L. Spicer

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